

A/S Herbert Oppenheimer recently talked to a summer school class in Education at the University of Tennessee on "Black Mountain College". Oppy writes from Knoxville: "We have spare time to read and write but more often those hours just slip unproductively away....Actually the average soldier today doesn't know why he is fighting, what he is fighting, and where he must drive after the Armistice. This ignorance of our people is being expressed in Congress today.....The secret of Black Mountain - it quickly becomes one's community, your home. It's not only community living, the work program, a new system of education. Black Mountain offers soil its people can dig down to and get hold of, a few years life that may easily dominate a life time, for the community does so easily become one's home. I wonder about a world like that, around each factory, each office, each farm group. Possibly there is part of the answer to man's fight for strength and security. But it means much more than colleges and education. It means a new attitude towards life, certainly a new economic system, and some people who can fight for dreams. It's so damn easy to be lethargic...."

Claude Stoller writes from Fort Worden in the state of Washington: "I'm still a private and will continue to be one for the duration of my stay here. Because while I'm the only piccolo player here, I'm nowhere good enough at it to be indispensable. It's very frustrating to be engaged in a job you can only do half justice to, and I'm dying to get a whack at something I'm really capable of doing....I have loads of free time in which to read and study, and access to a fine library. I manage to keep from being bored - perhaps that's as much as I can say for my existence here. Engineering school seems a bright dream. For months now I have been constantly assured that I'd soon be sent to a S T A R unit, but after all I'm only second class material (limited service). I suppose I'll be sent out any year now...."

WORK SUMMARY - WEEK OF AUGUST 2nd to 6th

The most satisfactory development this week, from the point of view of planning the work, is that hoeing corn is no longer considered the most gruesome task. One hundred stakes have been cut, split, and hauled for the hog fence. There is a general feeling that this is the hottest and hardest work. Unfortunately the vogue for corn hoeing will not last, as the hole digging, and the placing of stakes in holes become almost easy.

For a brief period last week it looked as though the demands for work would exceed the number of workers; and it would have, if people hadn't risen to the occasion and been willing to help out. Faculty wives and members of the Seminar saved the day by helping in the kitchen in a time of crisis. This they are continuing to do; and until the middle of next week students will help with the dishwashing.

Members of the community are now carrying the mail. This freed the office staff and the student workers for their regular work and eliminates an old thorn in the sides of both.

A jam in the office was also helped out by students volunteering one evening and getting out what looked like thousands of letters.

Repainting the faculty apartment in Mountain Stream was continued. The plan is to have this finished and the Stone Cottage well on toward completion this week.

Mundy has repaired leaks on the roof of Roadside, North Lodge, and Black Dwarf.

Harold Yenage made two racks for paper storage in the Bookbinding Department.

On the farm, corn hoeing has gone on as only corn hoeing can go on, damply, slowly endlessly. Perhaps knowing that this hoeing gives us enough corn to fill both silos and feed thirty beef animals and the dairy cows, silage also and most of the grain for the horses, hogs, chickens, and beef to be fattened, coupled with the knowledge that not hoeing would produce a comparable crop of